Many people believe Wendell Berry’s arguments against owning a computer are unrealistic; however, we believe his argument is valid and persuading. We agree with Berry’s choice to own only a typewriter because this decision is beneficial to him and his wife’s relationship, their finances, and the environment.

First, owning a typewriter and minimizing other technology gives Berry more time with his wife. The average American spends 34 hours per week watching television. Those are valuable hours that husbands could be spending with their wives or their children. Berry cherishes relationships over technology; therefore, he doesn’t need a computer which could interfere, like a television, with these personal relationships.

Additionally, a computer is an electronic device that must be charged frequently to maintain power. Berry has a typewriter that doesn’t require any electricity. This choice helps the environment because coal and other fossil fuels will not have to be burned to provide power. Also, leftover computer parts will not be thrown into landfills because he won’t have any. Berry’s choice is not only environmentally friendly but entirely realistic as his typewriter clearly meets his personal needs as a writer.

Buying a computer is a short term investment as technology constantly evolves, making computers quickly out of date. By not investing in this technology, he saves money. Typewriters were built to last, and computers are only supposed to last until the next technological advancement, which doesn’t take long. Choosing a typewriter over a computer saves Berry money and repair time for such a device. Berry’s argument is supported with this. He wanted a technological creation that fit his standards of price, functions, and necessities for the invention. Although innovative, the computer does not match his hard-to-meet standards.

Wendell Berry made a strong argument against owning a computer. While most responded with disagreeing remarks, we agree with Berry’s decision. Owning a typewriter is beneficial to Berry and his wife’s relationship and finances. Additionally, his choice is more environmentally friendly. Although technology is constantly advancing, it’s not always necessary for everyone’s personal needs.